



new Bernal Journal

October/November '93

Serving the Bernal Heights Neighborhood of San Francisco

Volume 30 • Number 6 • Free!

Sewer Surge Shaft on the the Hill?

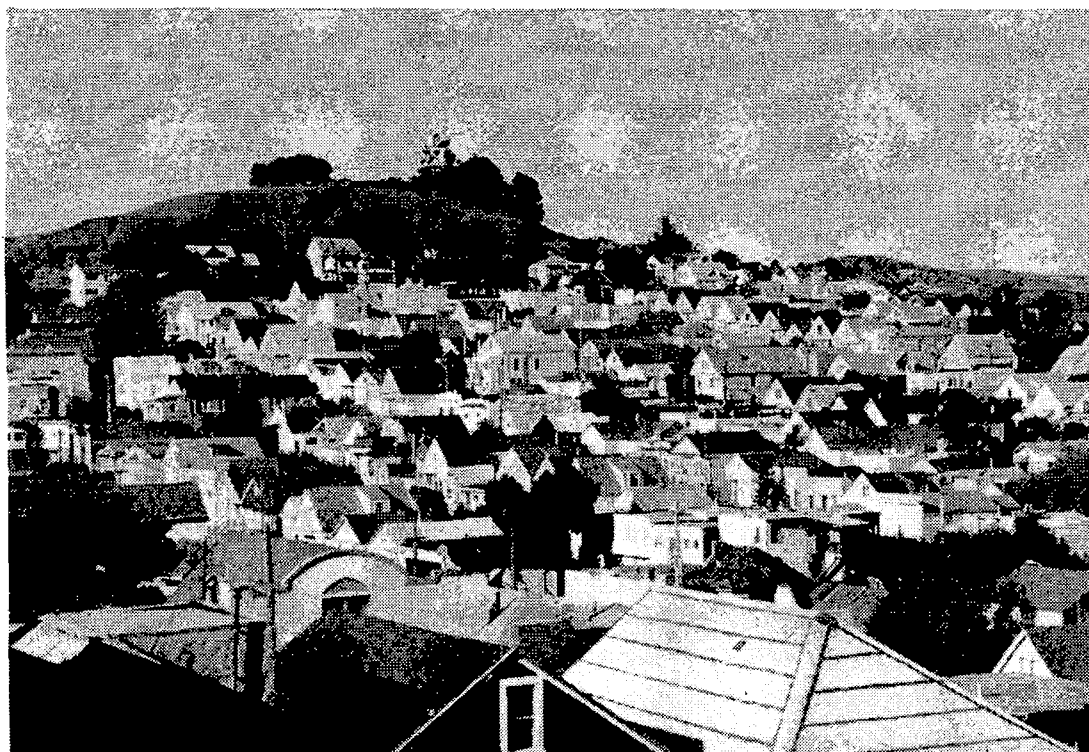


Photo by Jeff Bachman

The Bernal Hilltop is a proposed site for the surge shaft of the DPW's crosstown sewer project. The crosstown tunnel is part of the Bayside Discharge Alternative Project. Bernal residents are not pleased with the idea of it going through their hill. See page 13...

Community Policing Program A Failure?

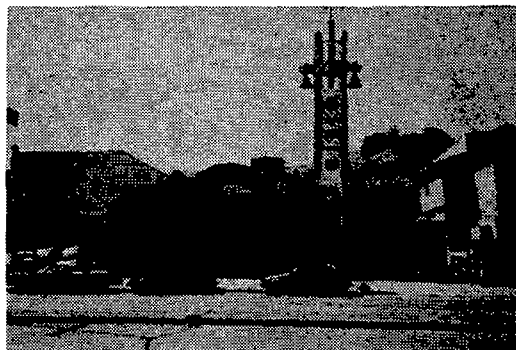
In May and June of 1993, amid rumors that Captain Harland Wilson was tearing apart the Ingleside's Community Police On Patrol (CPOP) program, otherwise known as the "beat cops", community members met with Captain Wilson to express their concerns. Wilson not only denied he was dismantling the program, but argued he was implementing an improved version of CPOP,

called the Community Policing program, which would make all officers at Ingleside CPOP officers. The plan also aligned each of the beat cops with a sector car so that a CPOP officer had only to coordinate with one sector car instead of sometimes three. Wilson stated that CPOP was in transition and the changes would be fully implemented by August, 1993. The new, improved plan looked good on paper, so com-

cont'd on page 15...

Saint Anthony of Padua Centenary Celebration 1893-1993

Originally established as St. Anthony's German National Church on July 23, 1893, the parish celebrated its 100th anniversary this year on July 23rd with a Mass in many languages, including Spanish and Tagalog. An Aztec dance opened the ceremonies, and other parts of the program related to the Central American, Cuban, and Filipino roots from which many of the parishioners come. At least 250 people listened to Father Michael Weldon's sermon about the blending of



St. Anthony's Church on Army at Folsom Streets

culture, it first met in a rented storefront at Mission and 26th streets. The next year the parishioners bought the property at Army and Folsom streets and began construction of the church which was dedicated by Archbishop Riordan on March 10 and administered by Franciscans. The businessmen, dairy farmers, and laborers who started the parish church and school wanted a German-speaking Catholic community to pass on their own traditions in the midst of an Irish-dominated hierarchy in San Francisco. cont'd. on page 12...

cultures that has been a part of St. Anthony's since the very first Mass.

When the German and Swiss Catholics of Bernal Heights and the Mission founded the church to continue their language and

Christmas in April Free Home Repairs for Bernal Seniors

On April 30, 1994, several thousand volunteers from business, labor, service organizations, and the community will converge in the Bernal Heights neighborhood to do free home repair for qualifying homeowners, and you are encouraged to become part of the team - either as a homeowner or a volunteer.

Christmas in April*San Francisco is part of a national effort to help low-income, elderly, and disabled homeowners live in safety, dignity, and decency through the volunteer repair and renovation of owner-occupied homes and nonprofit facilities that benefit underserved populations. Begun in Midland, Texas in 1973, Christmas in April now has 110 cont'd. on page 11...



Dr. Loco makes a housecall at Fiesta '93...See pages 4-6



Dr. José Cuellar, Ph.D., and his Rockin' Jalapeño Band wail out Latin rhythms to move your heart and consciousness, as well as your feet.

Three Critical November Election Propositions

As voters we tend to disregard "off election year" campaigns. This year we urge you to pay careful attention to three critical issues that will be on the November ballot:

On the local level, Proposition V (the "Welfare Reform" initiative), is a mean spirited and wrongly targeted initiative. While prevention of fraudulent claims for General Assistance may be a legitimate objective, the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center believes that a computerized fingerprinting system and 25 new "administrative hearing officers" mandated by Prop V will create a cumbersome bureaucracy that costs more than it saves. While Prop V will cost about \$1.2 million up-front and \$1 million a year thereafter, the Jordan administration admits they have only speculations and no solid data about the extent of GA fraud and the amount of city money that the fingerprinting system might save.

The Department of Social Services already has a fraud detection program - they shouldn't be allowed to waste taxpayer's money on expensive new "solutions" that cost more than the problems! Proposition V will increase bureaucracy with money taken away from neighborhood services. VOTE NO ON V.

On the State level, Proposition 168 has the support of the League of Women Voters, Congress of California Seniors, California Chamber of Commerce, and the State Associations of Realtors, among others.

Prop 168 updates an archaic law that requires local governments to hold an election before building publicly-supported housing. No other state in the country puts such a roadblock in front of efforts to house senior citizens and others in need. Prop 168 does require that a public body give public notice of proposed housing and hold an election if the - continued on page 12...

Neighborhood Shopping Guide & Classifieds: Page 8 & 9

new Bernal Journal

515 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110
(415) 206-2144

The *New Bernal Journal* is a bi-monthly neighborhood newspaper sponsored by the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with community news, ideas, issues, and events that support the Center's mission: "To empower people in efforts to preserve the ethnic, cultural, and economic diversity of Bernal Heights and improve the economic condition of low and moderate income people in Bernal Heights." The *New Bernal Journal* is distributed door to door, free in Bernal Heights. Articles express the views of contributors and not necessarily those of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center.

For Advertising Call: 206-2144

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New Bernal Journal Staff/Volunteers

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Art Production Victoria Graphics
Distribution David Rogers & a cast of hundreds!
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Letters

NBJ's 30th Year Anniversary!

Thirty years! What a tremendous accomplishment! Congratulations!

It is truly a tribute to our wonderful Bernal Heights neighborhood that our community newspaper has thrived for so long. I cannot name here the hundreds of people who helped keep it going over the years, but I'd like to mention a few of the hard-working volunteers that I had the pleasure of working with in my two tenures as editor...

To Jerry Schwartz and Rex Coultas, Bob Dutra, the late Lil Kruse and her great St. Kevin's Youth-I remember the hard work and late nights with great pleasure because I got to work elbow-to-elbow with fine folks like you!

Does Barbara Pitschel get the award for most prolific contributor? She's been writing her terrific natural history articles for many, many years!

Finally, I'd like to extend special thanks to the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, who took the NBJ under its wings, and continues to nourish it. We Bernal residents could not ask for a more talented editor than Vicki Victoria-and let's not forget energetic distribution coordinator, David Rogers, for takin' it to the streets.

Here's to at least 30 more years!

- Sincerely,

Barbara Bagot-Lopez

Dear Bernal Heights:

There is a rumor floating around that I do not want to re-

turn to the Bernal Heights Library. It is incorrect. I have never voluntarily left Bernal, and I never will.

The Chief of Branches has assured me that I can choose to remain as your children's librarian although she has not been specific as to the date or terms by which I will regain my assignment at Bernal Heights.

In the meanwhile, my love for Bernal Heights has been given back to me more than three-fold. I thank each and every one of you for your support. There really is no place like home!

- Love Always, Dorothy

Library: Use It or Lose It

Thanks for the *New Bernal Journal*, but I remain convinced that we are not using the paper in an "educational way" around the library. Undoubtedly, the Community Center/NBJ would like to celebrate Dorothy Coakley's return - so have an "organizing" victory. Nonetheless, we have a new Latino Children's Librarian and great technicians who live on the hill and we seem not to want to share that good news and urge folks to "use it or lose it."

-Marty Kashuba



Fr. Joe Walsh

St. Kevin's Church Welcomes New Pastor

Fr. Joe Walsh became St. Kevin's Church's new pastor on September 1st, taking over for the well loved Fr. James O'Malley, who retired this year.

Fr. Walsh, who has served in Belmont and San Rafael, looks forward to getting to know Bernal Heights and its residents. He says that he likes the community very much and has been warmly welcomed. He also observes that the new businesses opening on Cortland Avenue are a good sign that its residents support the community and that the neighborhood is healthy. "You get a feeling that you're in a real neighborhood - it's a good feeling."

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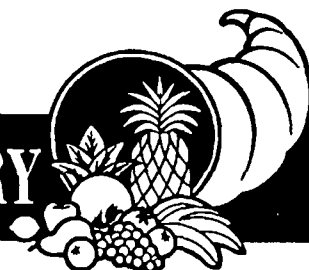


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Bernal Library Committee in Action

by Lisa Kaborycha

If you happened to be at the Main Library on the afternoon of September 7th, you would have seen groups of Bernal kids and grown-ups carrying colorful, handmade signs reading "School starts Tomorrow, Where's Dorothy?", "Bernal Kids Need Dorothy" and "Dorothy is Precious". The 30 children and adults attended the San Francisco Library Commission to protest the involuntary transfer of Dorothy Coakley, the popular children's librarian, from the Bernal Heights Branch.

Library Commissioners listened as Bernal neighbors voiced their anger and frustration with the library administration, emphasizing Dorothy's contributions to the community and her importance to the children of Bernal Heights.

Kids want Dorothy back

Michael Vargas-Williams, age 10, stepped up to the microphone and said, "Our community needs Dorothy. Lots of kids and grown-ups like her. We need her back".

Peter DiStefano, a kindergarten teacher on sabbatical from Junipero Serra Elementary School said "Dorothy had been a big help to the Hispanic community in Bernal Heights. Working with community input, she was responsible for Bernal receiving a large collection of children's books in Spanish."

The protest, organized by the Bernal Heights Library Commit-

tee, a group of neighbors who have fought over the past three years to save the Bernal Branch from closure, focused their fight this year on bringing Coakley back to the Bernal Branch.

"In the past, when Dorothy was here, she inspired the Wednesday evening programs. I use to go regularly with my daughter and neighbors but now we don't bother. There's nothing worth going to the library for since she's gone," said Mary Stern, a teacher at Junipero Serra School and formerly at Paul Revere.

According to Stern, the policy towards school groups in the library was dramatically altered since Dorothy's departure. There is no longer the same outreach as before, and groups are limited to one visit per year.

Bernal resident Mindy Linetzky said "I live in Bernal Heights, and even though I don't have children, I appreciate Dorothy's contributions to our community. I think she was transferred as a punishment for her activism on neighborhood issues. On her own time she really helped us keep the Bank of America on Cortland Avenue open and we are really grateful to her for that."

Library Commission President James Herlihy refused to comment on the Bernal protest. It is his opinion that this is strictly a personnel issue, not a question of accountability to the community and therefore, is not Library Commission business.

At a July 7th meeting with the

Bernal Library Committee, City Librarian Ken Dowlin said that he would do what he could to see that Dorothy was restored to Bernal on or around August 15th. Now he says that he has not broken his promise to Bernal, but certain conditions regarding Dorothy's pending Worker's Compensation claim must be resolved before she can be returned to the Bernal branch.

Dorothy Coakley, is alive and well at the Western Addition Branch Library to which she was involuntarily transferred in May,



Bernal children and adults protested at the Library Commission's Meeting, demanding that Dorothy Coakley be returned to the Bernal.

'93. She says that misses the children of Bernal and would very much like to come back.

Bernal Saved From The Axe ... This Time

In addition to demanding the return of Dorothy, the Bernal Library Committee is also working on ways to improve circulation at the branch.

Thanks to the hundreds of letters, phone calls and petitions of concerned neighbors, no branch libraries were closed this year. However, the Bernal Library Committee feels that the Bernal branch is always one of those on the chopping block when budget cuts are made because we have a relatively low adult circulation. Circulation is the main factor that the library administration takes into consideration when it assesses a particular branch. Despite its vital presence on Cortland, our library will always be in hot water

ish about library hours and various programs at the Bernal Library. We will need volunteers to help distribute them.

We need your input on how to make the Bernal Branch a more attractive, inviting place to come to. Please come to the next Committee meeting, and share your ideas with us.

Help Clean Up The Library Grounds On October 16th

Every third Saturday of the month from 9:00-11:00 a.m. is Library Clean-up Day in Bernal. Residents join together for a library, playground and graffiti clean-up. It's a great way to start your weekend, gardening, painting out graffiti and removing trash with neighbors! You may bring gardening equipment, plants, gloves, or garbage bags and meet in front of the library. Take a moment to admire the new library plantings we've done on the corner of Cortland and Moultrie next time you pass by.

Special thanks to Andrea Johnson for the Moultrie corner plantings and to Jo Falcon for the new sycamore tree in front of the library. To volunteer or donate plants please call Andrea Johnson at 824-8029.

Bernal Library Committee Needs You!

The Bernal Heights Library Committee is an on-going group which meets about once a month to discuss and solve problems relevant to the Bernal Branch. It is composed of citizens concerned with the quality of library services offered in our neighborhood. Everyone is welcome, please call Lisa Kaborycha at 641-8708 for more information. •

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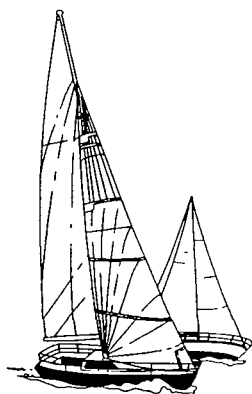
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Come One, Come All to our 5th Annual FIESTA ON THE HILL!



This year's lively logo was designed by Bernal artist Nic Griffin.

On Saturday, October 23rd, from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center (BHNC) will sponsor the best community music and dance celebration yet at the Bernal Playground on Moultrie Street at Cortland Avenue, behind the Bernal Library and the Bernal Park and Rec Center. The FIESTA is a double whammy party this time! This year, the neighborhood especially honors

the BHNC's 15th anniversary as a provider services to our culturally diverse community. The BHNC offers youth employment, gang prevention, senior services and programs: fights for services such as saving the Bernal library; and provides community assistance to many neighborhood and tenant groups. All the money raised goes into supporting these non-profit neighborhood community and outreach services and

activities.

National and local culturally diverse music!

Special double celebrations call for extra special entertainment. FIESTA showcases major na-

tional and local culturally diverse music groups. You'll be dancin' to Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeño Band is hot Tex-Mex rock and roll blues sure to get your hips movin'. This incredibly talented Chicano band also delivers a

powerful message of pride and freedom that people from all backgrounds can understand. Also featured is Pat Wilder's Rhythm and Blues Band, which just made a big splash at the Women's Rights March in San Francisco and the National Lesbian and Gay Pride March in Washington D.C. earlier this year. This African American rock and roll band will make your circulation sizzle. We'll also be showcasing our neighborhood music groups, such as The Pinch, Ramocue and Harvey! There's something for everyone from folk to blues to rock to hip hop! Be sure to look for flyers announcing the entertainment at your local businesses.

Delicious Ethnic Foods & Colorful Local Art!

This year, bring a big appetite and a taste for art. You'll be excited by our delicious ethnic food, desserts, non-alcoholic drinks, and terrific crafts and art made by our very own neighborhood artisans.

Great Activities for Kids!

Let the kids enjoy fun safe activities, games and a special library exhibit. Co-sponsored by the San Francisco Park and Recreation Center, which houses this non alcoholic event, we'll have a safe array of children's activities that your kids will be talking about until the next FIESTA.

Popular Dunking Booth Returns!

Pay a buck, dunk a community friend. The age old FIESTA dunking booth is back with a vengeance this year. Once again, you'll get a chance to dunk a well known local community member.

Free Tees for Volunteers!

Volunteer and get the incredible FIESTA T shirt free! Supplies are limited, and this year's logo is the coolest yet.

Admission free!

Mark your calendars. FIESTA ON THE HILL is Saturday, October 23rd, 1993 at the Bernal Playground, at the Bernal Park and Recreation Center, behind the Bernal Branch Library, on Moultrie Street at Cortland & Jarboe Avenues from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. The FIESTA is a non-alcoholic, drug free event. •

- By Demece Garepis
Fiesta '93 Coordinator



Nationally known and locally home-grown, Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeño Band, highlights Fiesta on the Hill '93 to celebrate the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center's 15th Anniversary.

Just What the Doctor Ordered

Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeño Band stars at FIESTA on the Hill '93

Dr. Loco and his Rockin' Jalapeño Band will be featured on October 23rd at the Fiesta on the Hill and promises to be the remedy for unoriginal, uninspired, formula music.

One of today's hottest and most innovative Chicano Roots/World Music bands, this award-winning group of San Francisco based multi-talented musicians

share a commitment to exploring the diversity of Chicano/Latino music from prehispanic to postmodern.

Dr. Loco's spicy hot fusing of polkas, salsas and cumbias with R&B and rock-n-roll not only reaches out to grab you onto the dance floor, but also reaches deep into your soul through messages of non-violence and unity. Their

unique socially aware music questions the purpose of war and the reasons for racism. Striving to promote positive images in the Latin community as well as creating fresh sounds, the band successfully blends their words with pulsating music that inspires, instead of preaches.

A college degree as well as musical talent appears to be a

Rockin' Jalapeño pre-requisite as each band member holds or is working towards a college degree. The energetic Dr. José Cuellar, Ph.D., the band's leader and demon sax player currently teaches at S.F. State University and heads its La Raza Studies Program. His red hot and well educated Jalapeño Band members are Mario Barrera, percussion and vocals, B.A. U. Michoacán, Chris Gonzales Clarke, guitar and vocals, B.A., Stanford U., Carlos Camplis, timbales and vocals, Jesús Covarrubias, keyboards and vocals, B.A. UC Berkeley, Carlos Montoya, bass and vocals, B.S., Stanford U., David Stephens, trombone and vocals, B.A. Stanford U., Mark Rendón, congas and vocals, M.A., UC Berkeley, Glenn Appell, trumpet and vocals, B.A. Hunter College. •

FIESTA Volunteers Needed!



FIESTA ON THE HILL invites residents and friends to help make this community event a success! Last year, dozens of volunteers had a great time working as a team and even making new friends. As a volunteer, you can share your talent and time on one of the following committees or activities:

- **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES:**
Help design and set up children's programs
- **FLYERS AND POSTERS:**
Distribute the FIESTA flyer and posters



- **STAGE SET UP/BREAK DOWN:**
Setting up the stage and take down
- **CLEAN UP:**
Light litter and equipment clean up after the show

- **STAGE MANAGERS AND HANDS:**
Day of show stage management
- **BAND HOSPITALITY RUNNERS:**
Food table set up and managing for the bands
- **SECURITY:**
Security people for this non alcoholic drug free event
- **BOOTH HELPERS:**
Gofers for various booths



All volunteers who serve on any of these committees or activities will receive a special edition of the FIESTA '93 tee shirt on the day of the event! Call Demece at 206-2140 for more details.



Bernal Merchants and Local Businesses Featured in FIESTA's Program

FIESTA proudly announces the **Fiesta Program Book** and **Bernal Business Map**. The *Fiesta Program Book* is an attractively produced magazine stock filled with listings and ads sure to target the needs of a culturally diverse community. This year, the *Fiesta Program Book* will feature the *Bernal Business Map* - an artistic, easy to follow merchant directory. The *Bernal Business Map* will be distributed free through advertiser locations, merchant businesses, local Bernal residence mailings, and city wide distributions. This must-have guide is a treasure trove for your most frequent customers - the entire Bernal Heights community. The *Bernal Business Map* will be featured in the centerfold of the FIESTA Program distributed to all over 3,000+ FIESTA attendees, mailed to Bernal Heights residences, and will be the official FIESTA Poster. This glossy guide will be useful to your future customers all year! To be listed on the *Bernal Business Map*, simply purchase a quarter page, half page, or full page ad in the *Fiesta Program Book*. You'll not only get an ad, but a complete targeted marketing plan as well! Or, if you're a Bernal neighbor, and would like to have your family name inscribed above our attractive graphics featuring homes along the hill, you can do that too!

The FIESTA Program last year was a proven success. This year, we are expecting a dramatically increased turn-out since we are showcasing *Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeno Band*, a major national music group! Over eighty percent of its advertisers are rerunning their messages in this '93 issue. This year, the addition of the *Bernal Business Map*, mirrors the strength and potential of our significant market. Attractive enough for framing or the refrigerator, it quickly becomes an indispensable reference guide. The *Bernal Business Map*, is an absolutely essential tool. Put your business on the map - the *Bernal Business Map*! Rates are as follows:

Fiesta Program Book andThe Bernal Business Map:	
Full Page	\$ 300
1/2 Page	\$ 165
1/4 Page	\$ 100
Neighbor	\$ 50
Listings in the FIESTA Program only:	
Business card	\$ 50
FIESTA FRIEND(name only)	\$ 25

Contact FIESTA coordinator Demece Garepis for more details 206-2140. Remember, space is limited, and your deadline for submission is Monday, October 4, 1993.



San Francisco School Board member and Bernal Heights resident Tom Ammiano is featured at the FIESTA '93

Nationally known gay comedian
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Celebrate FIESTA ON THE HILL '93!
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- ___ Yes! I'd like to **CONTRIBUTE** as a neighbor and help **SPONSOR** the FIESTA ON THE HILL and wish the BHNC Happy 15h Anniversary! Please list me as a contributor in the FIESTA PROGRAM BOOK *only*. Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ payable to the *BHNC FIESTA*.

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For more info, contact the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center FIESTA: 206-2140

New Bernal Journal 30th Anniversary Highlights

The *New Bernal Journal* celebrated its 30th Anniversary at the El Rio on September 9th. Macolm Thornley's club hosted a musical explosion of local talent, as the Pinch, PMS, Jim Hayden and the Screaming Divas filled El Rio's Bernal De Janiero room.

The celebration honored the dedicated volunteers who deliver the *NBJ* door to door on the hill every issue. The *NBJ* holds the distinct honor of being the oldest, continually published neighborhood newspaper in the City, primarily because of its many volunteers who contribute year to year to keep neighbors informed of the news, issues, events and people on the hill.



Volunteer distributors receive their coveted "Bernie" Award. Top: Distribution Coordinator David Rogers, NBJ Editor Vicki Victoria, Distributors Tim Molinare, Buck Bagot. Middle: Distributor & BHNC Director Mauricio Vela, Distributors Robert Weiner, Anne Rhodes, Frank Harris, Bill Sorro. Bottom: Distributors Alan Bruce and Ann Golden.



They couldn't have picked a better name! The Screaming Divas gave an all out, outrageous performance of opera gone mad. These acappella wonders performed wildly amazing feats such as transposing the B52's "Rock Lobster" into a frantic, exceedingly dramatic and zany opera buffa while maintaining tight, precisely delivered, and intensely creative harmonies.



Above: Featured band, The Pinch, rocked and rolled the celebration belting out old favorites, as well as offering lively originals that brought the crowd to the dance floor. Cleverly blending a variety of musical styles from rhythm & blues to folk and reggae, the Pinch frolicked with a playful energy upon each note that was strummed and pounded.



Left: Smooth, sexy, smokey acappellas by PMS (Pat, Mary and Sandy) opened the night. With an amazing range of musical styles from jazz to country & western to vintage 40's and 50's, the classy trio's harmonies were delivered with tonal precision and a fun loving sense of humor.

Below: Foreground: Bill and Lynn Scott the dance floor accompanied by Ann Golden and Buck Bagot (background).

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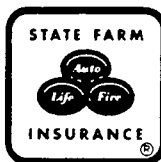
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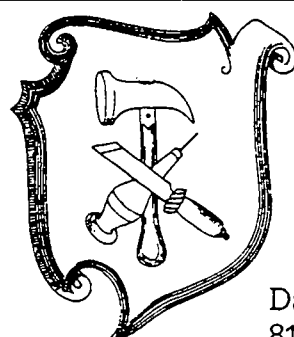
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United, Straightforward on a Positive Tip Bernal Heights Mural Project

By Marissa Aniel

"Silence the violence" is a simple, self-explanatory phrase yet used as a positive influence towards our peers and others. This past Summer, "Silence the violence" became the name of our mural. We, as the youth of the community, united as one to create a whole new perspective on art...reality. Yes! What flows through the eyes is a vision, a realism yet, we pulled through this together to finally let the people know how we feel. Maybe not to be exact, but to be legit. In a flock of colors, we see none...we just see love. Though we didn't know each other from the start, we still offered our friendship.

A lot of people don't pay enough attention to the youth and

they tend to make it difficult on themselves - they are unable to relate and understand what we mean; what we really mean. The only thing that can probably make them understand is if we acted in a manner that would content them, not us. We're all different...but see that's what makes the world so beautiful. How dull of a planet it would be if we were all the same.

That's all we basically mean. We don't mean to make you mad by the way we talk or dress or act. We don't do this purposely or accidentally, we do this because that's just us. It's something called expression. Something we all do everyday of our lives.

We grasped and held on to that freedom we had and put it on a

A Youth Employment Program Success Story

Josephine "Jo Jo" Smedley was a bright but shy and awkward 15 year old when she first applied for a job with the summer youth program at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. She lucked into a part-time position with Jeff Bachman in the fiscal department. She was excited to be working in an office but felt that the tasks assigned to her were below her level of achievement. Jeff was willing to expand her job duties slowly after she proved herself.

Jo Jo continued to surprise everyone, including herself, as she very quickly learned the basics of bookkeeping and proper office etiquette. Now, after participating in the after school MYEEP program and two summer PIC programs, Jo Jo can file, create filing

wall for the public eye to see. Not just the pictures but, the story. This is what we look at, this is what we feel, but most of all this is what we created - a masterpiece of a unique kind.

We are not fully done yet but it will soon be completed. This is what enhanced and conditioned our Summer. Something we all feel good about. On behalf of the teens for the Bernal Heights Mural Project, we thank the staff at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center for their unlimited support. But most of all, we need to

systems, write checks, prepare deposits, post accounts and balance a checkbook. "She does get nervous writing checks that are over \$20,000 but aside from that, Jo Jo has been an ideal youth worker", says BHNC's fiscal manager, Jeff Bachman. "She has been at all times dependable, prompt, and accurate."

"From these programs, I have gained experience that is more

thank Lamont Gardner for pushing us and motivating us because without him, the mural would not have been created.

As a conclusion of our Summer, we don't seek for an end but, a new beginning to an even more beautiful Bernal Heights. Staying on the positive side, good things do come to an end but, I just know that we'll never forget this Summer, the Summer of '93 (HOW SWEET IT WAS!).

Marissa Aniel is a 15 year old 10th grader at Woodrow Wilson High School.



Josephine "Jo Jo" Smedley

valuable than just a paycheck (although I like the money too!). I feel more confident in school and with older people in general. Jeff has been patient. He has been a great teacher/boss. He's also my friend, and that's important. These job programs are really great. I recommend that other young people get involved, get trained, get busy."

BHNC Executive Director Helen Helfer is very proud of Jo Jo. "This is the kind of success story of which I am most proud. Josephine has gained work skills and confidence that will always serve her well in her professional and personal life. The agency has clearly benefited from her participation." Besides all that, she's a great person to have around!"

The MYEEP Program at Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center will soon be looking for youth workers for after school jobs. For more info, please call Laura Dominguez at 206-2143. We look forward to your calls.

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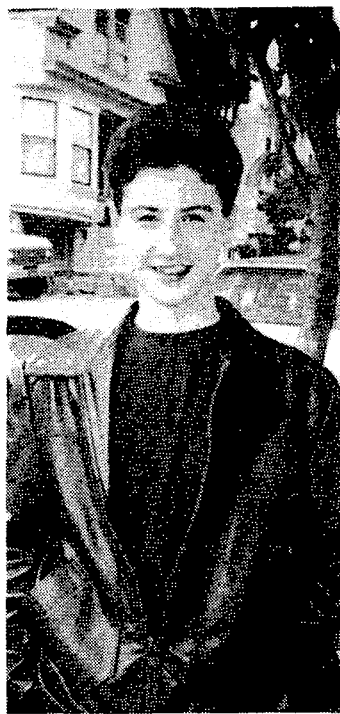
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Max Brodskiy

From Russia, With Love

Max is a bright, friendly youth who participated in this past summer's MYEEP program. A newly arrived Russian immigrant, Maksim "Max" Brodskiy is happy to be in America.

Max says that the perception that most Americans have about Russia being a cold, gray and desperate place is not all true. "There was always something to do and places to go with your friends. But here (in San Francisco), there aren't as many things for young people to do."

"I miss my friends, but am glad to be in America," says Max. He explains that his Jewish family left Russia because it is not safe for them. "If I am harassed and report it to the police in Russia, they will do nothing. But in America, I have respect and feel safe."

Max is thankful for the opportunity to have a better life in America, but he will always miss his home as he sighs, "I love Russia!"

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Thank You!



Thank you Volunteers! Volunteers of the Bernal Heights Senior Program were honored at their annual Recognition and Awards dinner on September 19th at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center.

Christmas in April

cont'd from page 1...

affiliate programs across the country.

In partnership with the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, Christmas in April*San Francisco (CinA*SF) has refurbished a total of 31 homes. This past April, hundreds of hard-working volunteers not only repaired and painted eight Bernal homes but also

weeded, cleaned and replanted several open space areas on Virginia and Eugenia Streets. In 1991, the Precita Community Center received a boost thanks to a CinA*SF-sponsored renovation. Many Bernal Heights residents have generously participated in these projects.

"Christmas in April is an effort to impact city life at the neighborhood level," says Sam Lawson, CinA*SF's Executive Director. "It's a way for businesses and individuals to say, 'We can make a

difference and we will!'"

Working together in the tradition of an old-fashioned barn raising, CinA*SF's skilled and unskilled volunteers make renovations that emphasize safety and decent living conditions. They install handrails and grab bars, rebuild unsafe stairs and porches, clean out debris, paint interiors and exteriors, provide minor electrical and plumbing upgrades, clean up yards, and generally spruce up the homes. At one project, volunteers built a 40-foot

wheelchair ramp, enabling the residents to leave her home unaided for the first time in several years.

In addition to repairing homes in Bernal Heights, Christmas in April*San Francisco volunteers will also clean, paint and built in the Bayview, Mission, and Oceanview-Merced-Ingleside neighborhoods. All hands-on work will take place in April, and the

renovations are free of charge to beneficiaries.

Homeowners who are elderly or disabled, fall within federal low-to-moderate income guidelines, and live in the home needing the repairs are eligible for the program. If your home needs repair or if you know of someone who qualifies for Christmas in April*SF's program, we encourage you to apply by calling the Christmas in April office at (415) 905-1611.

You can also contact Mike Noon of the Bernal Heights

senior's condition will often times vary along the continuum. By working more closely together and sharing client information, BEST and the Bernal Heights Senior Program hopes to serve seniors better by being able to track and refer seniors to appropriate services as the senior's individual needs change.

Carmen Mendieta has moved up to become BEST's coordinator and will continue to provide assistance to frail seniors with the program's two Care Coordinators, Joan Brown and Jim Wolf. The Care Coordinators are part of BEST's Elders for Elders Program that assists frail seniors with their needs in order to allow them to remain independent in their own homes. New to BEST this year is Carolce Waidelich, who has been busy coordinating BEST's Volunteer Program. She will solicit the assistance of neighborhood volunteers to aid frail seniors with tasks such as grocery shopping, transportation, light house keeping and companionship. Due to space limitations within the BHNC, BEST will remain housed at 301 Bocana and can still be reached at 206-9177.

Housing Corporation at 206-2140, or Vicki Victoria of the Bernal Heights Senior Program at 206-2145 for more details. The application deadline is November 30, 1993.

This program couldn't exist without the tremendous support of local volunteers, so we need you! Please call the Christmas in April*San Francisco office at 905-1611 if you have energy, expertise or materials to donate. With your help, we can make a difference in Bernal Heights.

- By Marta Johnson



Margaret Smith, 1906-1993

Known as the "Mayor of Cortland Avenue," Steve Brazzar was a true gentleman who regularly made his daily rounds through the shops and cafes of the street, always sitting down to engage in conversation about the weather or those damn Giants. Always dressed in a suit and tie, Steve, a former restaurant owner on Cortland, could always be seen waving a greeting to the neighbors on the street. Those who knew "Steve" beyond his pessimistic "Oh, what the hell" views on life, knew of the big heart and warmth under his gruff façade. A dedicated husband, Steve has now joined his beloved Hazel somewhere in Heaven.

The Bernal Heights community said goodbye to two very remarkable people in the last two months: Margaret Smith and Steve Brazzar.

Margaret was a fiercely independent woman, who at the age of 86 drove her own car to her part time job at the Bernal Heights Senior Program. She organized the program's Choral Group, discussion sessions and afternoon video presentations, often times spending hours researching and planning the material for these activities. She also volunteered her piano playing skills to organize skits and musical presentations during holiday celebrations which delighted participants year after year.



Steve Brazzar, 1915-1993

Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center (BHNC)

Board & Committee Meetings

October & November, 1993

• Board Meeting

7:00 p.m., Mon., November 15th, 515 Cortland Avenue.

• Fundraising Committee

6:00 p.m. Mon., October 18th Wed., November 10th

• Outreach/Community Organizing Committee

6:30 p.m. Tues., October 5th, November 2nd

• Senior Committee

5:30 p.m. Mon., Oct. 4th, Nov. 11th

• Youth Committee

7:00, Thurs., Oct. 14th, Nov. 11th.

All Committees meet at the Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue, unless noted otherwise. Call the BHNC at 206-2140 for more info.

Middle East Festival

October 1 - 2 - 3, 1993

Friday 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Sunday 12 noon - 6 p.m.

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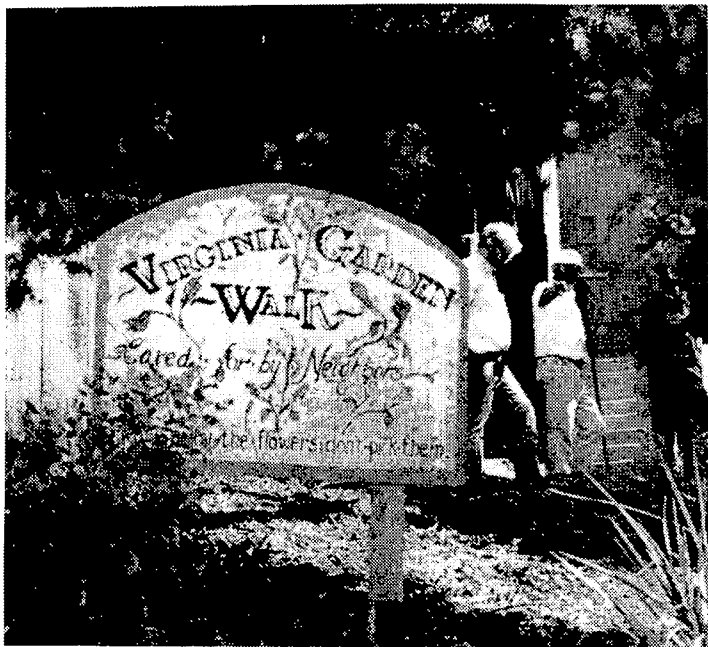
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Living on the Hill



Finishing touches and a lovely sign are placed by Bernal Open Space volunteers at the Virginia Walk gardens on September 18th.

Beautiful Gardens and Parks, Courtesy of Your Neighbors

The Bernal Open Space Committee has had a busy year improving natural areas on the hill. Organized by Lisa Steadman, this group of neighborhood volunteers have cleaned up and replanted several areas in the neighborhood, creating beautiful gardens and open spaces for all to enjoy. In mid-September, the group replanted an open space area at Chapman and Powhattan that was recently burned down by a suspected firecracker.

The committee is currently submitting a proposal to receive funding to restore the Bernal Playground and library grounds. The playground's structures have suffered severe deterioration and is

unsafe due to the equipment's broken play structures and rotting wood. In addition to replacing the playground equipment, the committee also hopes to receive funding to plant flower beds in the area, making it more attractive and inviting for neighbors and their children to use. The Police Department encourages community involvement in the park as a way for neighbors to take it back from those adults who loiter and drink publicly in the playground.

The Bernal Open Space Committee hopes to see more neighbors volunteer in community projects such as this one. Call Lisa Steadman, 550-0529.

St. Anthony's

continued from page 1...

St. Anthony's has been a beacon and an anchor for Bernal Heights and the Mission District since its founding. The first pastor, Father Leo Bruener, started many organizations and societies for charity outreach to immigrants and residents. The parish supported the Archdiocese's orphanage in the Bayview District. The church members were also involved in the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake and fire. St. Anthony's School served as a hospital for victims of the catastrophe.

Another example of the help that was provided to the community occurred in 1909. The school basement was where the first services of the Italian National Church of the Immaculate Conception were held. This continued until their own church was built a block up the hill on Folsom Street.

The population shifts during World War II and after changed the congregation of St. Anthony's. More Irish and Italians and Hispanics, primarily from Mexico, made up the parish. Father Michael Egan persuaded Archbishop John J. Mitty to change the status of the church. On July 30, 1947, the German National Church designation was removed and St. Anthony's became a regular parish.

The original church building started construction in 1894. Over the years more buildings for the school, rectory, and parish hall were built and rebuilt. The magnificent Romanesque-style church with soaring steeple



John Brucato, Chairman Emeritus of the SF Farmer's Market, hosts Mayor Frank Jordan during the market's 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Farmer's Market Golden Anniversary

The San Francisco Farmer's Market celebrated 50 years of providing farm fresh produce to the city on August 14th. The celebration featured clowns, pony rides, music and customer appreciation prizes. Victor Martino of Modesto was crowned "Farmer of the Year" with a traditional wreath of garlic. Selling peaches, nectarines and figs in stall #1, Martino's family represents many generations of farmers who originally began selling produce when the market was first opened in 1943. •

Proposition

voters petition for an election (as was done last year with Market Heights).

The State Department of Housing, reports that California produced only 90,000 affordable housing units last year, out of the 250,000 it should be building. This slow-down in housing production has a ripple effect throughout the economy. VOTE YES ON 168.

The **Voucher Initiative (Proposition 174)** will have a clear negative impact on our public schools, which we know need improvement in many areas. Prop 174 does not reduce class size, provide new textbooks, more library books, or afterschool programs. It just takes money away from our already financially starved public schools and community colleges and gives it to private schools accountable to no one. Anyone can recruit just 25 children, open a "school" and collect \$2,600 per student. The "school" does not have to be accredited, and it does not have to meet curriculum standards established by law. Also, the initiative challenges the U.S. Constitution's separation of church and state by giving taxpayer dollars to religious schools. VOTE NO on 174. •

Information compiled by Bill Sorro, Diane Ross, Helen Helfer, & Mauricio Vela

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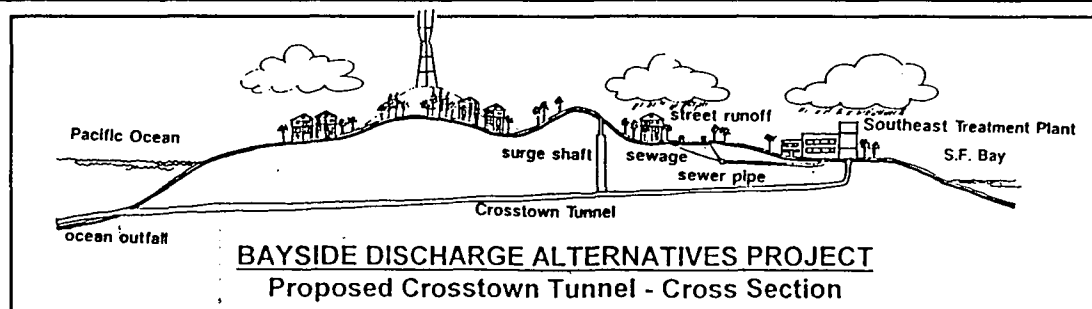
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Sewer on the Hill

At a presentation on the Crosstown Sewer Project held on September 14th, Bernal Heights residents learned more about what the Department of Public Works (DPW) had in store for their hill. DPW presented plans for its Bay-side Discharge Alternatives Project - a crosstown tunnel that would help solve the city's sewage disposal problems. The tunnel would pass through Bernal Heights with four surge shafts positioned in the Bernal Hilltop near the top of

Anderson, Prentiss, Waltham and Folsom Streets.

Residents think that the idea stinks - or that it will - in more ways than one. The plan's 10 foot surge shafts would allow fumes from the tunnel, which originates at DPW's Southeast Treatment Plant, to escape en route to its destination into the Pacific Ocean. DPW engineers assured residents that these shafts would be built with carbon filters to help control odors. But neighbors like Nic Griffin, whose home sits near the top of Prentiss Street, doesn't like the idea of these shafts emitting gases, as well as aesthetically marring the open space of Bernal Hilltop. "Could you imagine these



10 foot shafts sitting on the hill? And even though they said that they have the technology to control the odors, things can still go wrong after it's built...and then what?"

The reassurance of the engineers didn't alleviate Montcalm Street neighbor Miriam Murphy's fears about placing the surge

shafts in the hill. "If they go drilling into the hill, how do I know I'm going to be safe during an earthquake? Those tunnels and things could make the hill weaker."

Bernal neighbors have already begun a petition against the construction of the Crosstown Tunnel/Sewer Surge Shaft on their

hill stating their concerns of "toxic air emissions, odors, disruption of seismic stability, costs and other issues." Future meetings of the sewer project are not known at the *NBJ's* press printing time - interested neighbors can call the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, 206-2140, as meeting information becomes available. •

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These are challenging times for City Hall — spiraling costs, service cuts and a widening budget gap.

Does the City Charter — the document that lays the framework for our city government — allow San Francisco to meet these challenges? Is the 61-year-old City Charter a blueprint for good government or an anchor for inefficiency?

Voters will have the opportunity to consider reforming the charter this November. Of the 28 local measures on the ballot, 17 are related to charter reform. Included among these 17 charter reform proposals on the November ballot are Propositions L, M and N.

Proposition L — Department of Human Resources

San Francisco currently has 26,000 employees but no single, centralized human resources department. Some say this leads to inefficiency and poor coordination of services for workers.

Proposition L, proposed by Supervisor Barbara Kaufman, is designed to consolidate and streamline the City's personnel operation. Prop. L proposes to merge the Civil Service Department, the Mayor's Office of Employee Relations and several other employment-related city functions into a single Department of Human Resources.

This consolidation is intended to help the City reduce its skyrocketing workman's compensation costs and improve the administration of city employee benefits and worker health and safety rules.

Proposition M — Department of Public Transportation

The Municipal Railway is an important service. However, some feel it is strangling itself with

bureaucratic inefficiency so that public transit suffers.

Proposition M, proposed by Supervisor Carole Migden, is designed to reorganize Muni to make management more directly accountable to the public and make it more difficult for the City to cut transit service or increase fares.

Prop. M would place Muni under the scrutiny of a Transportation Commission comprised of transit experts and Muni riders. Under Prop. M, if the buses aren't running on time, the Director of Transportation will be held accountable.

Proposition N — Charter Review Mandate

Proposition N, proposed by Supervisor Sue Bierman, calls for a review of the City Charter for the purpose of restructuring city government to make it more efficient and responsive.

Prop. N would hold the City's highest elected and appointed officials responsible for identifying additional charter reform measures to be placed on the November 1994 ballot. Under Prop. N, the Mayor, the Chief Administrative Officer and a member of the Board of Supervisors must submit charter reform proposals to the full Board for review and public hearings.

Proposition N would be implemented through the creation of an advisory committee of neighborhood, civic, labor and business leaders to help develop a new charter for city government.

On November 2, San Francisco's voters have an important decision to make about how our city is managed.

**CHARTER REFORM IS AN
IMPORTANT ISSUE—STUDY IT.**

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Holistic Learning on the Hill

Bernal Heights neighborhood has a magical energy with its rainbow of creative and unique people. In the 14 years that I have lived here, I have experienced this energy often during my walks on the Hill. While on these walks, I envisioned a place where I could continue my quest for self improvement and spiritual awareness. A friendly supportive space where family, friends, neighbors and anyone could have access to a variety of self healing knowledge, learn at their own pace and have a willingness to share in the joy of self healing. It has been my experience that as I am healing myself, I, in some ways, am also a healing influence on my family and friends, my community and thus my world. This was my vision and it has manifested as

the Bernal Heights Metaphysical Center.

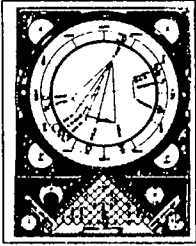
The Center is a holistic learning place. Holistic means *whole* and refers to viewing yourself as a whole being, that is body, mind and spirit. To balance the whole self holistically it is suggested that the body be kept healthy through proper diet and exercise; the mind educated with knowledge gathered from many sources, and the spirit be nurtured through meditation and prayer.

The Center offers you the opportunity to do all of this through a variety of speakers, teachers, and alternative therapists. Through their knowledge and experiences you have an opportunity to explore your own infinite possibilities. • By June Ahern, Bernal Heights Metaphysical Center, 648-9236.

AstroRap

By Jessica Murray

As 1993 closes, the sky will bend over backwards to give us an exciting show. We have had two of the three Uranus-Neptune conjunctions already, in February and August. They say the October 24th the two last time in 171



Floods are going along with mass relief the meltdown of government. Uranus has speeded has the effect of accelerating going on. In during the whole year has been the rule.

The profundity and speed of the world changes this year is part of a millennial process. New ideas and levels of awareness will be urgently called forth from every one of us as the age of Aquarius nears. Expect your own life to reach a peak state in early January, when seven planets will move in very close together with the Uranus-Neptune coupling. Crises that have been festering may culminate in some kind of revelation. Stay awake!

Astrology by Jessica Murray, 626-7795.

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A Special Open House

The Board of Directors of the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, and Rafiki Housing Program celebrated the opening of our Holly Park Circle Home home on August 27th, 1993 - Permanent, affordable housing for people living with HIV.

The Bernal Heights Housing Corporation (BHHC) launched our Special Needs Housing Program in 1991 to provide housing and support services to special needs populations. In the Spring of 1992, we acquired a 4-unit apartment building for permanent, affordable housing for people with mental disabilities. In July, 1993, BHHC acquired this 2-unit home on Holly Park Circle with funds from Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS

(HOPWA), the Corporation for Supportive Housing, the S.F. Redevelopment Agency and the Low Income Housing Fund. Rafiki Housing Services, a project of the Black Coalition on AIDS, agreed to provide supportive services to tenants of the house.

The objectives of BHHC are to:

- Maintain, through the provision of affordable housing, the diverse ethnic and economic character of Bernal Heights
- Increase the stock of affordable housing in Bernal Heights
- Improve the quality of existing low income housing stock
- Initiate housing programs for Special Needs Populations

Efforts towards meeting these objectives include operation of the 49-unit Coleridge Park Homes for lower income seniors, pre-development planning for a 46-unit housing complex on the hillside behind the Farmer's Market, rehabilitation of over 100 homes in Bernal and the Outer Mission, acquiring and rehabilitation of existing residential properties for Special Needs Housing and identifying sites for new affordable housing opportunities.

Rafiki Housing Services provides housing, emotional and practical support for persons infected with the AIDS virus. Rafiki House is a community-based 8-bed temporary housing program for homeless people living with HIV. Holly Park House will be permanent housing for people living with HIV. • By Helen Helfer

For more information on our housing programs, please feel free to call us at 206-2140, or stop by the Neighborhood Center for one of our housing interest forms.



Celebrating the open house of the Holly Park Circle Home are Joy Rucker, Director of Rafiki House, Jeff Bachman, BHHC Fiscal Manager, Helen Helfer, BHHC Executive Director, and Carol Corr, BHHC Special Needs Housing Coordinator

Market Heights, Property Values, & You

Who has not heard the following dire predictions? "Your home won't be worth anything once that project is built!" "The neighborhood will go down the tubes once those people move in!"

Is there any truth to these

statements? The answer is an unequivocal and resounding "NO!"

First, let's clear up the question of what type of housing will be built on the hillside behind Farmers Market. It is rental housing

for working individuals and families whose income falls into a low and moderate category. That income can range from \$20,450 per year to \$56,000 per year depending on the size of the family.

Secondly, what will happen to property values in the immediate area? Those values will remain the same and possibly improve. According to a UC Berkeley Study of Bridge housing projects, 3,000 home sales in neighborhoods located a quarter mile from affordable housing developments were examined and no relationship was found between home sales prices and the proximity to the development.

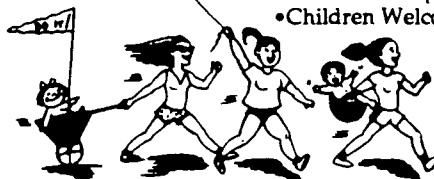
Therefore when neighborhood groups or misinformed individuals denounce well designed affordable housing development as bringing down property values, they are wrong, wrong, wrong.

Our city needs attractive, well designed, low cost housing. The homes that the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation have built in the past look great and give the community something to be proud of.

The future plans for Market Heights are attractive, full of architectural detail, and the development should actually be an incentive to improve the surrounding property.

Homeowners may be urged by some opportunistic realtors to sell now, others urge them to hold onto their homes. These homes should hold their value and hopefully improve in value as the national and state economy improves. • By Carren Shagley, BHHC Board President

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BERNAL CALENDAR

• **Bocana Street Garage Sale, October 9th, Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** This 3 block long, 2nd annual sale is organized by Bocana Street neighbors and promises a great selection. The garage sale was organized to involve the street's teenagers and ease tensions between them and their neighbors through a positive, fun activity. A percentage of the proceeds will go towards organizing an activity involving the teens. *On Bocana at Cortland. More info: 826-3380.*

• **S.F. Open Studios in Bernal, October 16th & 17th, Saturday & Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Painting, sculpture, photography, jewelry and more created by dozens of Bernal Heights artists who live and create on the hill will be featured as part of the SF Open Studios. Neighbors are invited to see behind

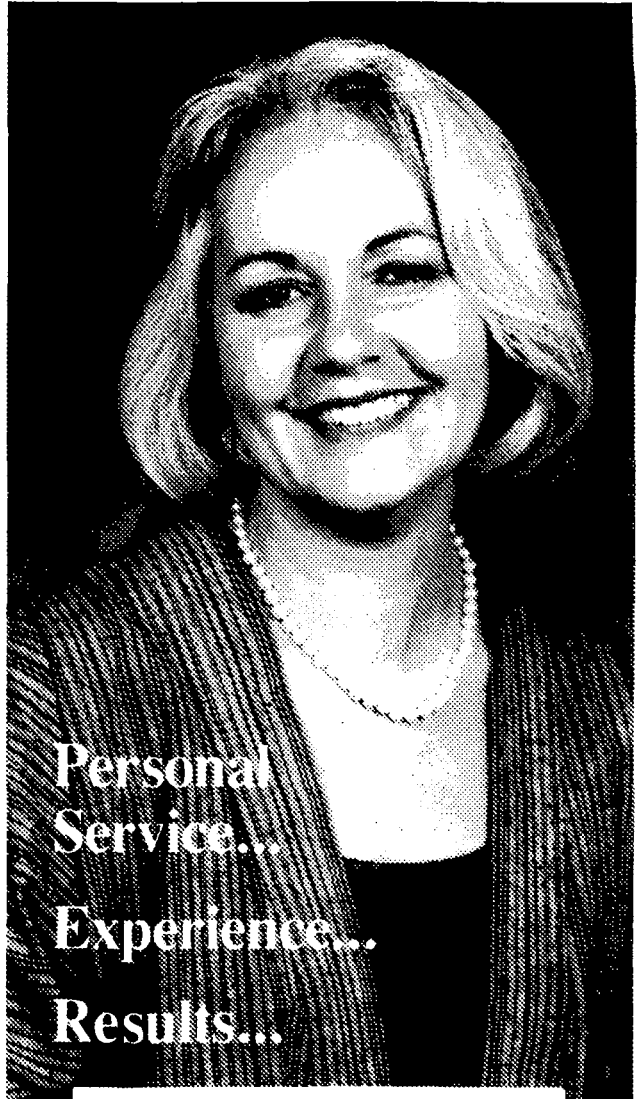


L.J. Altwater stands in front of his canvas "Fear of the Ground." Altwater is one of many artists housed at 3435 Army Street at Mission participating in this year's Open Studios.

the scenes of a professional artist's studio and home to view and purchase artwork where it is created. Discover new talent or what an artist is all about, while adding to your art collection at prices often well below retail. Studio locations include the Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue, artist studios at 3435 Army Street and individual homes and studios throughout Bernal Heights. *For more info and a complete city directory, call ArtSpan at 861-9838.*

• **Champagne Bingo, November 7th, Sunday, 12:00 noon.** Hosted by the St. Kevin's Women's Guild, tickets for this fundraiser are only \$10.00 and includes 7 cards for 14 games with a \$30.00 each game. Complimentary champagne, sandwiches and cakes. Ellsworth Street at Cortland Avenue. More info: 648-5751.

• **San Francisco Panache, November 9th, Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Sparkling colors and dashing sophistication are promised as St. Luke's Hospital celebrates its 42nd annual Musee de Noel. This benefit to renovate St. Luke's Hospital's Out Patient Surgery Center will feature a silent auction of fine art, wines, travel and dinners, a gourmet luncheon and a fabulous fashion show featuring elegant attire by Jeanne Marc and Bernini. *Sheraton Palace Hotel, 2 New Montgomery Street. Tickets are \$50 per person, call 641-6538.*



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CPOP -

cont'd. from page 1

munity members took a "wait and see" position on the issue.

Now the results are in. During the month of August there has been very little coverage in Bernal by CPOP officers and plenty of violence. The following incidents have been reported to the BHNC or the S.F. Examiner: August 14th, Drive-By, Geneva & Mission; August 18th, Drive-By, Silver & Mission; August 18th, Drive-By, Precita & Alabama; Sept. 3rd, Beating & Stabbing, Precita & Alabama; Sept. 8th, Drive-By, Precita & Alabama; Sept. 15th, Drive-By, Moultrie & Crescent; and a Sept. 15th Drive-By, Moultrie & Jarboe.

If the old version of CPOP was

in place, the CPOP officer would have realized that the Precita Valley and Bernal playground areas were very "HOT" and needed urgent attention. Calls had been made to Ingleside regarding these two areas and no action was taken.

On September 14th, the North West Bernal Block Club met with Police Commissioner Wayne Friday and on September 15th the Precita Valley Committee met with Deputy Chief Petrini and Captain Wilson. Petrini and Wilson announced that Officer Tom Feledy was the new coordinator for the Ingleside Community Policing program and that Howard Weathersby would be moving from the Cortland Avenue beat (41B) to the Precita Valley beat (41a). The committees later found out that this was incorrect information. Ingleside

also committed to addressing the situation immediately including the improvement of communication between Ingleside and the Bernal Heights community.

Effective September 27th, the following officers will be assigned to walk the following beats: Beat 41A (Precita Valley) Raymond Gee, Beat 41B (Cortland Avenue side) Howard Weathersby, Beats 42 A+B (Mission St. West side) Edward DelCarlo. Hopefully, this action will address the community's immediate needs. For the long term, we hope that Ingleside, in coordination with the Bernal Gang Prevention Project, and neighborhood groups will come up with solutions to address this on-going problem. Many neighborhood groups are very concerned and the BHNC is working on coordinating a police/public safety meeting if Captain

Wilson does not follow through with his commitments.

If you would like to get more involved and/or haven't seen any improvement in the problem, please come to the BHNC's Outreach/Organizing Committee meeting on Tuesday, October 5th @ 6:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Center, or call me at 206-2140 and ask to be put on the community policing concern/interest list, or call Captain Wilson at 553-1602 or CPOP at 333-3433.

Together we will solve this problem.

By *Mauricio Vela* - Center Director/Community Organizer

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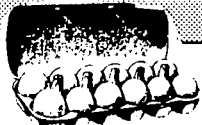
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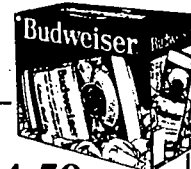
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